

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing Amendment and remarks which follow.

Claims 4-7, 10, 17, 18 and 21 are before the Examiner. Claims 1-3, 8-9, 11-16, 19-20 and 22-23 were canceled. Claims 4, 10, 17 and 21 have been placed in independent form. Claims 5-7 and 18 have been amended to change their dependency. Claims 4-7, 10, 17, 18 and 21 was indicated to be free of the prior art and allowable if placed in independent form.

The objections as to the remaining claims, e.g. claim 21, have been attended to by amendment.

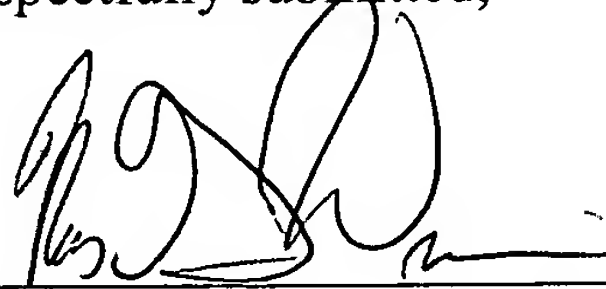
The anticipation rejection based on Tacke et al. is rendered moot by the cancellation of the rejected claims. The subject matter of these claims is being pursued in a continuation application.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner not find the Application to be in allowable condition or believe that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of the Application, Applicants request that the Examiner telephone undersigned to discuss the case and afford

Applicants the opportunity to submit any Supplemental Amendment that might advance prosecution and place the Application in allowable condition.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. G. Wiseman', written over a horizontal line.

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